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Community rallies for family following fatal fire

JENN WATT

Editor

An outpouring of support and donations has been flowing for the Brown/Trotter family following a fatal fire near Gooderham in the early morning hours of Thursday, Oct. 15.
More than \$38,000 had been donated

to the family at press time through GoFundMe as people learned of the fire, which took the life of the family's 11-yearold daughter.

At home during the fire were Ian Brown and Linsey Trotter and children Brooke and Chase. Ray, Ian's father, was not home at the time.

"Not only has Ray, Ian, Linsey and Chase lost their home and lifetime possessions, nothing can replace the life that was lost, 11-year-old Brooke," the GoFundMe page organized by Linsey's cousin Jennifer Wilson reads.

"We understand this fundraiser can't bring Brooke back or relieve the pain of their brokenhearted family, but we do hope it helps with travelling to visit

see FINANCIAL page 3



New paths open up near Haliburton

Hikers walk down the Heritage Trail with Haliburton Highlands Land Trust founding member Sheila Ziman, as part of the official opening ceremony of the Barnum Creek Nature Reserve on Thursday, Oct. 15 in Haliburton. The event included upwards of 25 people marking the occasion, which was delayed due to measures to reduce the risk of COVID-19. The property was donated by the Dobrzensky family. See more on page 2./DARREN LUM Staff

County council amenable to smaller, if not tiny, homes

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter

Haliburton County councillors seem open to permitting smaller footprint homes to be constructed within the county, although maybe not the type of tiny homes some residents would like to

Councillors discussed the issue during a review of proposed amendments to the county's official plan during an Oct. 14 committee-of-the-whole meeting. Regulations around tiny homes and other proposed amendments will come back to the council in the form of draft polices, and will also be subject to a public meeting

before any changes are made.
"We do not currently have a policy, in the county official plan, or any of the local plans, with regards to tiny homes," planner Charlsey White told councillors, explaining the provincial government has recently outlined a series of minimum standards for tiny homes, should municipal governments care to incorporate tiny homes into their official plans.

Currently, each of the county's four lower-tier townships have minimum dwelling sizes, ranging from 500 to just less than 800 square feet, depending on the township.

'So what a tiny home is, as defined and outlined, is a small, self-contained

see ALLOWABLE page 8

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Nature reserve opens to the public

Hikers walk along a trail beside Barnum Creek, as part of the official opening ceremony of the Barnum Creek Nature Reserve on Thursday, Oct. 15 in Hallburton. The event included about 25 people to mark the occasion, which was delayed due to measures to reduce the risk of COVID-19. The reserve, which features kilometres of hiking trails, is owed to the generosity of the Dobrzensky family who donated the 500 acre property for the reserve to the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust in 2018 under Environment and Climate Change Canada's Ecological Gifts Program. It is located at 1118 Gould Crossing Road (incorrectly labelled Cowan Road by Google Maps) off of County Road 1./DARREN LUM Staff

Haliburton Highlands Land Trust chairperson Greg Wickware addresses the audience who gathered for the official opening ceremony of the Barnum Creek Nature Reserve.





Margaret Dobrzenksy looks on as her mother Leopoldina speaks to a small gathering at the official opening ceremony of the Barnum Creek Nature Reserve.



Hike Haliburton winter edition gets go-ahead

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter

Haliburton County councillors are supporting going ahead with snowshoe festival Hike Haliburton: Winter Edition this February.

Last February saw the inaugural winter version of the county's popular Hike Haliburton Festival, the latter typically taking place in September and including a series of guided hikes throughout the county. This fall's festival was cancelled, a decision county councillors made in the spring amid the initial uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic.

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However, during a virtual Oct. 15 committee-of-thewhole meeting, county councillors unanimously recommended proceeding with the winter edition of the festival, with COVID-19 safety protocols in place.

A report from tourism director Amanda Virtanen offered three options for councillors' consideration: holding the festival with COVID-19 safety protocols in place; holding a scaled down version of the festival with fewer people and fewer hikes with COVID-19 protocols in place; or cancelling the festival outright.

"Something else to keep in mind is of course that travel is not encouraged at the moment throughout the process, so if we were to hold the festival, it could be extremely hyper-local activity, which could be a good thing," Virtanen told councillors.

Councillors were unanimously in favour of hosting the festival.

"I would just add that we know that all reports indicate that increased outdoor activity will continue," said Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt, "we're certainly seeing that in the Algonquin Highlands Water Trails, is still quite busy right now, despite the weather. Our parks, rec and trails manager is certainly anticipating a robust uptake of snowshoeing and skiing, because you can distance, and you can, you know, get outdoors

"I know we made the decision to cancel the Hike Haliburton Festival," said Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts. "I just want to say what a great job you [Virtanen] did though of promoting hiking in Haliburton, regardless of not having a festival, and a lot of people are hiking on the open trails."

"So, in light of that, I think that maybe we could go forward, as long as we meet the COVID protocols," Roberts continued. "People have to pre-register so we have contact tracing. We know the names and contact [info] of who is going to be on that hike. I think it's something we should try to go forward with."

Last year's snowshoeing festival included 20 guided hikes

"I think there's going to be a huge demand for it, and if we try to cut down on the number of hikes, I think we're just limiting ourselves," said Dysart Deputy Mayor Pat

"I totally agree," said Highlands East Deputy Mayor Cec Ryall. "The numbers that I'm getting now are saying that for every three cottages that closed last year, there's one that's definitely not closing this year, and that number could be going up."

Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor Liz Danielsen wondered if given potentially increased demand, there should be a limited number of participants per hike, with an expanded number of hikes.

"But otherwise, yes, I think we should go full-steam ahead," Danielsen said.

Virtanen said the average number of participants per hike last year was 15, "which by provincial regulations would still be fine. So we'll just continue to monitor how many people can be outside, and if we have to limit the numbers or change, then we can do that on the fly."

Financial donations, household goods accepted for family

from page 1

Linsey while she recovers in the hospital, secure housing and purchase clothing and household goods.'

An update posted Oct. 18 reads: "Linsey is in an induced coma in ICU in Peterborough. She has severe smoke damage to her lungs and throat and very bad blistering on the inside of her throat. They will keep her in this state as she needs to recover and this is the best way.

"Ian sustained multiple injuries to his back along with smoke inhalation and he is OUR HERO and returned multiple times to search.

'Chase has smoke inhalation but is doing extremely well.

"Ray was not home during the fire but he has also lost everything and will need our support just as much. Both Ian and Chase are home with us and will remain here until they are ready.

'Also please remember that Brooke's Dad, Steve is also hurting and will need support as well since he does not live close and is also a part of our family. We cannot express our thanks or even know how to thank our families, friends and this wonderful, amazing community that we live in."

Wilson reiterated that the family is very appreciative of the support, saying "it shows true community."

For those wishing to contribute to the

fund for the Brown/Trotter family, visit the GoFundMe page at https://www.gofundme.com/f/fatal-family-housefire. For those wishing to make a donation offline, cheques can be mailed to: C/O Alfred and Joan Trotter, PO Box 150, Gooderham, ON, K0M 1R0. Household goods and clothing donations are also being collected in Haliburton, Wilberforce and Gooderham. Donations can be taken to:

Gooderham Location:

Bill and Veronica Hunter 10102 Highway 503 Gooderham

Items can be left on the porch if no one

Haliburton Location:

Parker Pad and Printing 153 Mallard Road off Industrial Park Rd Items can be left Mon to Fri 8:30 am to

With Tracy Stoughton

Wilberforce Location:

Lindsay Draper Wilberforce Service Centre 2246 Loop Rd Wilberforce

Additional drop-offs are in Fenelon Falls, Peterborough, Apsley Lakefield and Bancroft. All drop off locations are available on the GoFundMe page.

Collision claims life of Haliburton woman, 57

A woman from Haliburton has died following a collision on Gelert Road in Minden Hills on Sunday.

Emergency responders received the call for assistance on Oct. 18 at about 4:35 p.m.

"A motor vehicle travelling northbound crossed the oncoming lane of traffic and entered the ditch where the vehicle rolled," a media release from Haliburton Highlands OPP reads.

Darlene Thomas, 57, of Haliburton was pronounced deceased at the scene.

The road was closed for several hours for the investigation and has since reo-

HKPR District Health Unit launches new COVID-19 data dashboard

A new way to deliver data has been cases, such as a breakdown of age/gender launched on the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit website. The health unit had been receiving requests from residents to present the data in a different format, according to Dr. Lynn Noseworthy, the health unit's

"People were asking for a more visual representation and pointed to a platform being used by other health units as an example," Noseworthy told the *Echo*. "The health unit launched the new plat-form [this month]. It is live for people to use but we are still refining the tool.

The dashboard is designed to provide the information in a more visual format that the health unit is hoping people will find easier to access, it does not release further information about confirmed of confirmed cases per specific county, or which towns the people diagnosed with COVID-19 live.

"The health unit is legally required to protect an individual's personal and personal health information when that infor-Noseworthy. "That means we will not provide any information about confirmed cases that could potentially lead to that individual being identified, including their specific age, gender or place of resi-

"We appreciate any public feedback as we are still working on refining the product to help meet people's information needs," said Noseworthy.

Visit http://www.hkpr.on.ca to see the chart, which is updated daily.

Fundraiser to assist mother after son dies in collision

Donations are being gathered for Marion Teatro following the death of her son Jeffrey Teatro, who was killed in a collision on Glamorgan Road on Friday.

Jeffrey Teatro, 44, was in a single vehicle collision on Oct. 16 and transported to hospital where he was pronounced deceased.

A GoFundMe page has been established for his mother. The page reads:

"Marion Teatro lost a son 6 months ago and Friday night her youngest son Jeff Teatro was killed in a car accident. ... Marion is always giving even when she does not have, it would be amazing if we could all give back to her and help her in her time of need. She is such a proud lady and would never ever ask for this help! Please donate if you are able!"

The GoFundMe page can be found at https://gf.me/u/y5fpbr or by searching for the fundraiser at GoFundMe.com.

Staff





DRIVE THROUGH FLU SHOT CLINIC FOR PATIENTS OF THE HALIBURTON FAMILY MEDICAL CENTRE/MINDEN MEDICAL CENTRE AND RESIDENTS OF HALIBURTON COUNTY - OCTOBER 24, 2020

We will be offering drive through flu shots October 24, 2020 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm in the parking lot of the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING;

- 1. Stav in your car unless instructed otherwise
- 2. Wear a mask/face covering
- 3. Wear short sleeves
- 4. Bring your valid Ontario Health Card and proof of permanent residence within the county
- 5. Do not attend if you have any symptoms of COVID-19 or if you have had direct contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19

DIRECTIONS - Enter the parking lot of the school off of Highway 121. You will be directed into a lane. Have your health card ready upon exiting you will be directed toward Grass Lake Road and Gelert Road (County Road 1).

WE CAN ONLY OFFER FLU SHOTS TO PERMANENT RESIDENTS AT THIS TIME DUE TO LIMITED AVAILABILITY





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Members of the Silver Beach Stewardship Committee join Wendy Hampson, second from right, and John Sheard, right, of the LKO at their award-winning Hugel beds. / Photo courtesy of John Sheard



Rewarding good work

Lake Kashagawigamog Organization presented its Conservation Award to the Silver Beach Stewardship Committee on Oct. 12. The committee, consisting of about 11 members, was recognized for their five-year plan to cultivate a series of gardens around the property using native pollinator and edible plants. /Photo courtesy of John Sheard

Resident warns community after being scammed

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

When the phone rang at Eleanor Cooper's house on the morning of Oct. 5, shortly after 8 a.m., she was not expecting what was to come – a series of events that resulted in the West Guilford resident feeling anxious, in distress, and scammed out of thousands of dollars.

Cooper was the target of a so-called "emergency scam," or "grandparent scam," a phone scam that preys on a potential victim's willingness to help their family members. Fraudsters impersonate a family member or close friend, calling for help in an urgent situation such as an accident while travelling abroad.

She answered the call that early morning, "before I had my thinking cap on, obviously," and heard what sounded like her grandson, in need of help.

"It was a little nerve-wracking, because I thought it was my grandson," said Cooper. "He'd wound up in court and he needed money right away, he needed cash. And don't tell anybody, or it would go worse, or I'd have to pay more than I said I could come up with, or whatever."

Cooper said the first thing she should have done was to phone her son, but because of the threat to keep the situation to herself, tried to handle it on her own, instead.

"I didn't phone anybody, I was in distress," she said.

The call made Cooper feel emotional.

"He wasn't crying, but he did let me know that if he didn't get a lot of money right away, he'd be in jail that night, and that was the last thing I wanted to happen to [him]," she said.

Cooper went to the bank and took out money from two accounts, in the amount of \$6,000.

"They just said what to do with the money – now that I look back on it, it's just too suspicious for anything, but I was to put money in a magazine, and send it by Purolator [to a Quebec address]," said Cooper. "Anyway, I did it"

That was not the end, however, of her alleged grandson's legal and financial needs, and the next day her phone rang again.

"The next day, they said they needed the same kind of amount, and I didn't know how I was going to do that,"

Cooper appealed to a family member, without sharing details of the situation, who told her to get a lawyer. She phoned her lawyer, but still felt bound by the gag order to not disclose information about the urgent matter. Continuing to want to help, she contacted another family member.

"I told her I couldn't tell her what it was all about until it was all over, and she wrote me out a cheque for \$6,000, just like that," said Cooper. "And it was such a relief because I thought, well, that's the end of it. If I can get this sent off, I don't know what I'll do, how I'll ever repay her. But one of the things they told me in the first place, and what I was thinking, was that [my grandson] told me, don't worry, you'll get your money back. Of course I'll never see it again."

However, because Cooper didn't have the right label on the second Purolator package, it couldn't be sent. Instead, she looked for help with a local solicitor.

"That's when things started to help me, because I got talking to [an employee] who works there, and by

the time she got finished asking me questions, she said, that's a red flag, that doesn't sound right," said Cooper. The employee arranged for her to speak with the local solicitor, who called the Haliburton Highlands OPP, help for which Cooper was extremely grateful.

"Both the constable and [the lawyer] were really, really upset about it," said Cooper. "They kept saying, don't be embarrassed, don't beat yourself over the head over this, they're professionals, they know how to do this. But they sure fooled me."

Despite her distress, Cooper is speaking out about the experience to help others know that scams can catch potential victims off guard, and to know the signs.

"I think they should know that scams are out there, that a call that is unexpected and affects your family deeply is going to be false," she said.

According to the South Simcoe Police, since 2009, the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre has received more than 17,000 emergency scam complaints, with almost 12,000 emergency scam occurrences, accounting for more than \$24 million in reported losses.

When Cheryl Cohoon, a friend of Cooper's, heard of her experience, she was upset, even more so when her mom Anne received a likely scam call last week.

"Mom got a phone call, that there was a problem with her VISA, there had been some money withdrawn and they wanted Mom to give them money so they could put it back on her VISA, that kind of thing," said Cheryl. "She was savvy enough to not fall for it but she was obviously totally distraught by the end of the phone call."

Anne said she had similar phone calls when she lived in the Toronto area, and had experienced a call telling her the RCMP would be coming to her home in Wilberforce due to being remiss with Canada Revenue Agency at one point.

"I don't go for the fake calls," she said. "Regarding money, I know what I've done with my life ... some stranger calling me to tell me about my bank, I know it's not true"

Cheryl said she experienced a scam call herself in recent years with a phone call she answered at 7 a.m.

"You're not totally awake and they assault you with all of this stuff, and it all feels and seems to be very, very real," said Cheryl.

Cheryl wrote to the *Echo* about the scam she experienced in a letter to the editor. She received many phone calls in support, including from those who had avoided a similar scam because of her letter, and said that's why it's essential for people to speak out about and share their experiences.

As of Sept. 30 this year, there have been 39,696 reports of fraud, and 18,533 victims of fraud, with \$67.2 million lost to fraud, according to the anti-fraud centre. The centre's website notes "it is estimated that less than five per cent of fraud victims report their occurrences to the CAFC."

"It's just so traumatizing, and particularly for elderly people, to get these kind of phone calls," said Cheryl. "When you're feeling vulnerable and threatened, you're just so susceptible to being prey and being a victim, and it's not something you get over quickly."

The OPP encourages anyone who thinks they have been a victim of the emergency scam or any other fraud to call their local police service or the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre online at antifraudcentre.ca. People can also call CrimeStoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

Top tips to protect yourself according to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre

On the phone:

- Criminals use "call-spoofing" to mislead consumers
 - This technology is easily available
- Do not assume that phone numbers appearing on your call display are accurate
- If a call does not seem right, hang up
- No legitimate institution will threaten you over the telephone
- Never provide personal information over the phone to an unknown caller
- If you provide personal information, contact Equifax and Trans Union to place fraud alerts on your accounts

Online:

- Do not provide your personal or financial information on demand
- Do not open an attachment or click a link in an unsolicited email or text message
- When buying products online, research sellers thoroughly
- Create strong passwords for each of your accounts
- Set up multi-factor authentication to make it more difficult for someone else to access your accounts
- Update the privacy settings attached to your social network accounts
- Be familiar with the terms of service and how payment methods work before using them
- Look for a fraud protection policy
- Never, under any circumstances, accept money and send money to a third party
- You may, unknowingly, be participating in money laundering which is a crime

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- Avoid reacting automatically. Take five minutes to ask more questions and listen to your instincts
 If something doesn't seem right, talk to someone else about
- Be cautious of greatly reduced prices (e.g. 80%). Know the market value of products
- Notice text with spelling errors or references to the product as "the item"
- Beware of pets offered at below market value or "free"
- Whenever possible, meet and purchase a pet in person
 Locate and verify the company's contact information (address, phone number, email) before you buy
- Look for customer reviews and ratings from third-party sources

 Partial full where you need your results.
- Be mindful where you post your resume
- Scammers use legitimate websites to seek out victims
- Take the time to research an employer and confirm that they are hiring

In general:

- Visit the CAFC website to learn more tips and tricks for protecting yourself
- Remain current on frauds and protect others by sharing what you know
 - Tell two others and ask them to do the same
 - An unbroken chain of 25 people telling two would cover the entire population of Canada

Director of education explains recent class reorganization

JENN WATT

Editor

A "significant reorganization" of classes was needed across the school board as administrators sought to make adjustments following shifts in student preferences for in-school or at-home learning, board trustees heard at their meeting Oct.

"Back in August, we said that once parents had made the choice for their child, we were going to stay with those numbers and if you were in bricks-and-mortar schools you would stay there and if you were in Learn@Home you would stay there, but there was a significant increase in parent requests to want to move back and forth," said Wes Hahn, director of education. "Some wanted to come back into schools and some wanted to move to Learn@Home, so we obviously wanted to open up and adhere to those requests to allow parents to make those changes, but in doing so, obviously it shifts the student body to different places and when that happens now we have to look where the teachers are."

Class size guidelines played into decisions around staffing and accurate numbers of students in schools needed to be provided to the Ministry of Education.

Hahn pointed out that it is normal for schools to have some kind of reorganization happen in September when the discrepancy between anticipated student enrolment and actual numbers are brought into line.

As has been previously reported, the board will keep a waitlist of students who want to switch between at-home and

in-school learning and intend to assess whether those changes can be made once a month. Secondary students, who are learning in an "octoblock" format – studying one class at a time rather than having many classes each day - may have their

requests to switch assessed at the end of their octoblock.

'It's not guaranteed, but you can imagine, as I said earlier, to do these grand reorganizations every month would not be possible. We would be moving and

disrupting the system constantly," Hahn said. "So, if we can make changes based on waiting lists and moving people back and forth without affecting class caps and averages and ... collective agreements, we



Early bird draw winner

Eric Recalla, chairperson of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation board, holds Peter Kukkonen's winning ticket for the Cash for Care early bird draw on Oct. 15 at the Echo office in Haliburton. At left, vice-chairperson David Zilstra and, middle, director Cathy Mack. The next early bird draw is on Jan. 15. There are three final draws worth \$20,000, \$2,000 and \$1,500. Call the lottery hotline at 457-1580 and 286-1580 to get your ticket. /DARREN LUM Staff



points of view



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Scam season

T HADN'T BEEN an hour since I discussed this week's story about a phone scam with reporter Sue Tiffin when I became the target of a scam myself.

Stunned at the brazen nature of the con artist who dialed up West Guilford resident Eleanor Cooper, posing as her grandson in desperate need of funds to avoid a night in jail, I couldn't believe how low some people would stoop to make money.

I was busy with several other things - writing a story, consulting with coworkers, editing the paper - when a new message popped into my inbox from the president of a board on which I serve.

"Good morning Jenn," the message appearing under the name of the board president read, "Are

you free at the moment? Let me know." The message was followed by his name and address.

Without giving it a second thought, I responded that I soon would be free and provided my number for him to call.

It wasn't five minutes later I received a follow-up email: "I'm currently away for a conference In a Session right now. I will call you when I get home to discuss. However, Please can you do a bill payment(e-transfer) to someone? It's imperative the payment goes out today and [the board treasurer] is not available to send out the payment at the moment.

Can you possibly process the Interac transfer? You will be reimbursed."

At this point, I was wise to the scam; the president's email address didn't look official and his normal signature wasn't at the bottom. Unfortunately, I had responded providing my phone number and within 30 minutes I received a call from an unknown number. I didn't answer and they didn't leave a message.

Caught during a moment when

my mind was elsewhere and thanks to the kind of information about people that can easily be found online, I was lured into replying to a scammer. Just as when Eleanor received a call in the early morning, with the person on the other end raising alarm with his panicked plea, she was lured by her



watt

scammer.

It can be as easy as that.

Anecdotally, it seems fraudsters are quite active right now, so we must all be diligent about these scams. Read up on them by reviewing Sue's story on page 4 and if you're at all unsure about the call or email you're getting, talk to a trusted friend or family member about it before agreeing to anything.

Falling for a scam can happen to anyone – the best defence is to become familiar with scammers' tactics ahead of time and stay on alert.

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Decaying beauty

by Darren Lum

Seven hearts

WAS HAVING a "terrible, horrible, very bad, no good day" (have you ever read the children's book by Judith Viorst – it is a good one!). It was early September and I was working on moving my business online. My daughter had made me a beautiful new website and I couldn't figure out how to update it. I was doing research on Zoom, Google Meets etc. and trying to find the right online platform to teach on. I was trying to figure out what headphones and sound system I needed. I was grumpy.

At one point, on this particular day, I lost everything I had been inputting onto the website and I picked up my computer and tossed it (OK, kind of threw it) onto the couch and said to myself, "that's it, I'm done. I'm not teaching yoga anymore. I can't do this, I don't want to do it. It isn't for me." I kind of stomped around for a few minutes and then started to laugh at myself and could see

the humour in the situation. I immediately asked myself, "is this what yoga is about? Does any of this technology matter?" In that moment I went back to my old website and updated it, sent a note to a friend who has a successful online teaching business and asked for help. And then I went and did some yoga and reminded myself why I love the practice, and why I love to

I really resisted all that was being required for me to figure out about the online stuff. And I just kept offering kindness and compassion to the resistance. I knew it would pass at some point. A couple of hours later I went to the post office. I was surprised to find that I had a large package, that I hadn't ordered. I got it home, opened it and was shocked to

find a beautiful painting of a flower garden with hearts woven throughout. My friend, and student, from Alberta had painted it for me to thank me for the meditations I had led in the spring. The seven hearts represented an idea that I had taught that is from the Ayurvedic system of health in India that is thousands of years old. They talk about each of us having seven hearts in our bodies. Two hearts in the soles of our feet that are called earth hearts. They connect to the earth and receive nourishment and support

from the earth.

Next are two service hearts in the palms of the hands and these are the hearts that we give and receive with. Below the navel is a creative heart that inspires us to create in our lives. In between the two eyebrows is the mind, thinking heart and finally the seventh heart is located where the physical heart rests in our body. The six hearts are connected

to the beating physical heart. And the image is that we are full of love, compassion, connection and wisdom. I had used this image all spring, and my friend painted the picture to thank me. What a gift to receive on my terrible, horrible, very

bad, no good day. It was the perfect reminder of why I do what I do. It made me smile and inspired me to push through all the resistance I was experiencing. All thoughtful gestures make a difference, especially these days. We need the support and connection to stay strong. A kind phone call, a message, some homemade cookies, a cup of tea by the fire or even a card in the mail. We all make a difference, we all need connection and support. From my seven hearts to yours, peace and love.



lynda shadbolt

points of view

Skunked

T WAS ONE of those mundane Sunday morning conversations that most couples have at one time or another. "I'm pretty sure the skunk is living in the culvert across the road," I said to Jenn.

"That's nice," Jenn replied, while hardly raising her eyes from her book.

"It's more than nice," I said. "That means it's not living under our shed."

"You think it might be living under our shed?" she yelped.

To be quite honest, I was still not exactly certain of that. For, as anyone who has ever opened up a hockey bag knows, it's never easy to find out where a bad smell is coming from.

And, despite what most people think, finding a skunk's lair is not an exact science, especially if winds are swirling or your hunting buddies are nearby.

The skunk lair in question was a prime example. Over the last few days, the telltale smell seemed to be coming either from under my shed or the culvert across the road, depending

on the wind.

Normally, I wouldn't care either way. But the thing is we have two dogs who admire and try to emulate skunks whenever possible.

That's why I found myself mumbling aloud, "To find a skunk, you have to think like a skunk."

Here's a fun fact. No other sentence in the history of the English language gets a woman's attention half as quick.

Jenn immediately put down her book and said, "Fi...fi....find a skunk? You're not going out there by yourself to deliberately try to find a skunk are you?'

This was accompanied by a look of horror and dismay in her eyes. So I put her at ease.

"Actually," I replied, "I was wondering if you would accompany me. You always complain we don't do enough fun things together. And I could use someone to hand me my denpoking pole and hold the flashlight."

I think she was touched by this, because her eyes suddenly

Unfortunately, when I went to the shed after putting on my early season skunking clothes, my den-poking pole had somehow got broken into six pieces and the batteries from my flashlight were dead, which was strange since I replaced them only last week.

Jenn, bless her soul, put on a brave face, complete with earto-ear smile, when I broke the news to her. Then, she said, "Oh well. I guess I can't help you now. Text me if you find the skunk. I'll be in the house, so don't bother taking a key..."

Thusly supported, I began my quest to locate the skunk's

The first thing I did was consider the options.

Both places were prime locations.

steve

galea

The space beneath my shed offered privacy and easy access to a lawn filled with grubs and other prime skunk food. But the culvert across the road had running water too.

Since I didn't have my den-poking pole or flashlight, I did what we do at hunt camp. I circled downwind to see where the smell was coming from. And almost immediately, I noted that an offensive odour was emanating from my shed - unfortunately, it was from my lawn mower and rake.

The smell from the culvert across the way was far more pleasant – it merely reeked of skunk.

When I determined this, Jenn met me at the door and asked if I had found where the skunk odour was coming from.

I pointed to the culvert.

She nodded and then suggested that since we didn't have to worry about a skunk under the shed, then maybe we could mow the grass and rake some leaves sometime next week.

Next summer, I'm putting a culvert under the shed.



pic of the past

lan Smith of Kingston was going through scrapbooks when he found this postcard of Mountain Lake in Minden Hills. He said the image is from the 1930s. We love sharing your pics of the past. Send them to jenn@haliburtonpress.com or bring them to 146 Highland St. in Haliburton.

letters to the editor

The potential of group testing

To the Editor,

Our ability to quickly and properly process COVID tests and follow up with good contact tracing is in many ways broken. To resolve this testing issue, why is group testing not being done? Group testing means combining a portion of the test samples from five people and analyzing them in one test. If there is no positive indication then all five are considered to be negative (i.e. no one

has COVID). If a positive result is obtained then each of the samples must be tested separately to find which sample is positive. This method will save time and the use of reagent chemicals without jeopardizing the results. It has been used successfully in the USA. Therefore, why is it not being utilized to help fix a broken system.

Dennis Choptiany

Reverse Advent Calendar collecting food for Haliburton's 4Cs

To the Editor,

As we look ahead to Christmas, we are drawn to the season of giving and of helping others. What can we do? What can you and your family do in these "COVID-19 times.

The Haliburton and District Lions Club would like to invite you and your family to participate in this year's Reverse Advent Calendar. The Reverse Advent Calendar is a do-it-at-home project that collects food for our local food bank. Post the Reverse Advent Calendar on your fridge or keep it handy in your kitchen. Place a collection box or basket nearby and each day in November, add the food item of the day to your collection. Then, bring your box of food to the 4Cs Food Bank on Monday, Nov. 30 at 10 a.m. The Haliburton Lions will be there with their food boxes and would appreciate being able to thank you and invite you be part of our socially distanced group picture. Also, please wear a mask. If this date and time doesn't work for you, please feel most welcome to drop it off at another time or contact the Haliburton Lions and we will arrange to pick it up

Being able to help others, especially during the COVID-19 times, is a gift to all. We hope you and your family will participate.

Haliburton and District Lions Club

Surviving cold and flu season

To the Editor.

illness, vour immune system is equipped to fend off the virus so you have either no symptoms, or tolerable symptoms. When you are "run down" and exposed to the same virus, you run the risk of becoming ill enough to require hospitalization. Here are tips to avoid succumbing to this season's "common cold," influenza and COVID-19 viruses.

1. First, avoid exposing yourself. Malls, stores, banks, post office, restaurants are all high traffic places with high risk for exposure. Limit, or ideally, avoid public places.

Telephone orders, internet delivery and

curbside pickup are options.

The flu is mainly spread by droplets in the When you are healthy and you are exposed air when someone with the flu talks, coughs, or

> 2. Stay away from sick people. Urge others to stay home if unwell, just as you must do to prevent virus transmission if you have symptoms.

> Viruses require a new human host to replicate and survive. If a virus cannot move to a new host then it dies. Did you know that if we all stayed away from each other for two weeks, then COVID-19 would die off that quickly? Pretty good reason to stay home, isn't it?

> 3. Wash, wash your hands. COVID-19 can survive on skin for nine hours (11

> > see IMMUNE page 9

Allowable size of tiny homes up for debate

from page 1

dwelling that has a living, a dining area, a kitchen area, a place to sleep as well as bathroom facilities," White said. 'And what I would like to be very clear about, is we're not talking about the types of tiny homes that you may see on certain television programming, where they're on wheels, where they can move around, where you can travel from Newfoundland to British Columbia – that's not what we're talking about."

What the provincial minimum standards outline are permanent dwellings, with requirements under the building code, servicing requirements, etc.

"What it is, is really a smaller footprint, which supports the county's goal for new and alternative affordable housing options within our community," White said.

Her report contained a recommended minimum size, taken from the provincial standard, of 17.5 square metres, or about 188 square feet. The report all proposed that tiny homes be allowed in all zoning designations with the exception of waterfront, and that they be permitted as primary dwelling or ancillary dwellings, in accordance with policies, zoning requirements and the Ontario Building Code.

White also suggested the potential creation of tiny home subdivisions

"Is there any differentiation for tiny homes, between in-town lots and rural, in any shape or way?" asked Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin.

"Yes," White responded. "So, what I would be looking to county council to identify is where they feel this is the most appropriate, because the main difference will be servicing. So, in some of our settlement areas, we have full municipal services, which means if you have a lot, whatever the size of that lot, you connect to sewer and water, hydro's probably at your line, you probably have some school bus service, your road is maintained yearround, you have all of that."

In the case of a tiny home as the primary residence on a rural lot, that would require servicing, "so that's a well, that's a septic, that's hydro service coming in," White said. "So there is a servicing difference, and it may not be the desire of council to have tiny homes in all areas."

"It may be most appropriate, because we're looking at it as a permanent dwelling, as an affordable housing option, that council may wish to consider having it only in settlement areas, or only where there's servicing avail-

Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor and County Warden Liz Danielsen thought the proposed minimum size was too small. "I would hope that we could find some mid-point that might be more acceptable to us all, and I'm also not sure about best land use of placing a tiny home on a town-serviced lot, but that's just something that I'd like to see us discuss," Danielsen said.

White reiterated that the minimum size in the report was taken from the provincial standards. "If you wanted to make a minimum home size 200 square feet . . . I mean, the policy will be in the plan and the local municipalities will be looked to implement that through their zoning bylaw. So, if it's on a proposed town lot with full services, you may have different zoning requirements and minimum sizes, versus in a rural lot, with private services. And again, that would be to the local municipality to identify in their zoning bylaw."

Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt wondered about the semantics of "tiny homes," and suggested the county start using different language.

"I definitely support moving towards smaller footprint homes to address some of the needs that we have in our communities," Moffatt said. "I do have a preference for tiny home communities being in settlement areas and I wonder if the first change, sort of mindset shift, is in changing the name. Tiny homes I think stands us in good stead for confusion. The tiny home movement is very different than a smaller footprint home for affordable housing purposes, and I think long way to solving our own interpretation problems, if we stopped calling them tiny homes, and started calling them smaller footprint homes. And I know it sounds like maybe that's splitting hairs, but . . . we're trying to provide housing, and provide more opportunities for different sectors of our community. And I think if the public hears, just reads the headline, 'Haliburton County allows tiny homes,' there may be a misunderstanding or confusion around the requirements for servicing, building code, a limit on the number of sheds you can have, that

Highlands East Deputy Mayor Cec Ryall said he agreed with Danielsen that the minimum size proposed



Members of Haliburton County council met via Zoom on Oct. 14, discussing limitations on the footprint of homes in the municipality. Councillors were amenable to allowing residences with a smaller than usual footprint, but had not settled on what that would be. /Screenshot

in the report was too small.

'I had similar thoughts to what Councillor Moffatt had said," said Minden Hills Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell, "and I think, I mean it's semantics, but when you say 'tiny home' I too think of the HGTV show, you know, where there's wheels and it's moveable, and I think maybe labelling them as something else would be a wise move

Schell also said she'd like to see whatever the requirements end up being to be consistent across all four of the county's lower-tier townships.

Devolin said he agreed with a consistent standard across the county, said he didn't have an issue with the square footage, but if his colleagues wanted a slightly higher number, he was amenable to that, and suggested that "micro housing," might replace the term "tiny

Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts said the minimum dwelling size in her township had recently been lowered.

Dysart just underwent a comprehensive zoning bylaw [review] and so this discussion came up, and we actually reduced the minimum size of a dwelling in Dysart across the board in all areas to be 600 square feet, which I know is still not in the neighbourhood of what we're calling tiny or micro."

Roberts said Dysart council had asked its planning staff how many people were coming in and requesting to build homes as small as 400 feet.

"It's very minimal," she said. "I think we have to be careful. We're not the same as some of the areas where these have been more popular. Our land is really precious here. There's only so much serviced land, so I really caution really reducing a whole lot more than even 600 square feet. In terms of other units, such as apartments or condominiums, we have them even smaller.

Danielsen said Algonquin Highlands council was also looking at the township's zoning bylaw and that minimum dwelling size would be a consideration. The current minimum size for a dwelling in Algonquin Highlands is 74 square metres, or 796.5 square feet.

"I would look more to a 400 square foot [size], which is kind of a mid-point," Danielsen said. "I believe that there will be a greater demand for smaller homes as people can't afford what's available on the market, can't afford to build larger homes. To me, 400 square feet is a really good midway point between the traditional tiny homes that we've been seeing, and something that is a little more modest than 600 or 700 square feet."

Moffatt said that if the purpose of allowing smaller footprint homes was to assist the aged, vulnerable or underemployed, "who by virtue of our housing studies and everything we've learned, probably need to be more near a town site, with access to shops and services," then it only made sense that smaller footprint homes be permitted in developed areas.

A micro housing community in a village situation is ideal for housing solutions," Moffatt said. "A separate issue is a lifestyle choice out on a rural lot . . . and I think there's a difference there, too.'

In terms of demand for tiny homes, White suggested there is significant demand.

"One local municipality, wrongfully, was added to a tiny home province-wide website as being one of the only places in the province where tiny homes were permitted," White said. That municipality was Highlands East. "And for at least 10 months, the phone at that municipality and at my office was ringing off the hook," White said. "... It got out there for some reason that one of our municipalities was allowing them and the demand was a lot. It was significant. So if council makes that decision to move forward, I think you will see demand right off the bat."

"We always have to think long term, when we talk about why are we considering this," White continued. 'And, I stated, I'm considering this and recommending this as a permanent housing solution and right off the bat, maybe we don't offer it available everywhere. Maybe it is focused, by policy, to settlement areas, see how it goes, see if it takes off, see if there really is that

White said that would also provide a chance for the county to collect data on how affordable the dwellings would be to construct.

Danielsen said she agreed with Moffatt on the concept of a micro housing community within a town area on

Moffatt expressed a concern that allowing dwellings too small would mean a proliferation of storage build-

"We are sadly a society driven by consumerism, which means everybody has a lot of stuff," she said. "So there are very few people who can actually really successfully live in micro housing by its strict definition. One of the concerns I think we have to have regard for, is where are you going to put your stuff? So you're going to have a shed, and you're going to have two sheds, and then you're going to have three sheds, possibly."

Moffatt noted that White has pointed out that local bylaws would restrict the number of outbuildings that could be constructed on a property.

'Because what you don't want to have is the development of a smaller footprint house, and a garage and seven sheds," Moffatt said. "You could have just built a house. And so, how do we ensure that . . . the community stays vital and tidy and not disorganized."

"There's no question that this is a popular idea," Moffatt said. "I want to circle back and say we need to make the decision whether we're trying to do this to provide housing, or a lifestyle choice, because they're very ent things."

White added that planning applications for smaller footprint homes would still be subject to the same planning process as other applications, subject to the same controls of site plans, etc. "Those controls could be put in place," White said. "So, you know, one shed in addition to the micro house on each individual lot."

A draft policy will come back to council and there will be public meeting

And when all of these items come back to council as part of a public meeting, we will have members of the public providing their input, we can discuss that further," White said.

What would Sam Slick's removal achieve?

To the Editor,

Re: Sam Slick Imagery

I read with interest the article in last week's issue. I have tried to analyze what is involved in the controversy behind the decision of the Windsor, N.S. community.

First of all, the image that accompanies the festival was and is very ill chosen. The image was not created by Mr. Haliburton but by a Mr. Jefferys years after the book was written. Let us remember that Sam is a fictional character and the illustration that is referred to accompanies the writing of Mr. Haliburton in Chapter 7 of the second series of *The* Clockmaker.

If you read that accompanying writing you will find that it is not racist but in fact Sam agrees to procure the man's freedom from his U.S. master and ends with "This incident serves as an introduction to Sam's discussion of slavery, a subject which is all tangled, and twisted, and knotted so, old Nick himself wouldn't onravel on it."

I submit that this description of the issue remains today.

However, the fact that the Wind-

sor community used this image to promote their festival was and is insulting to everyone and especially persons of African background or any people who have been subjected to slavery either in the past or present. Definitely it needs to be taken

However, do you now eradicate any reference to Sam Slick? Why? What would it achieve? We all make mistakes but why try to remove the writings of a humorist who brought forward the character of the times and was for the time widely recognized for his literary ability.

I would bring to everyone's attention an article "In defence of Thomas Chandler Haliburton" at www. saltwire.com (search the title of the article online to find it).

T.C. Haliburton had views of the 1790s to his death and we are achieving to be better than those views.

If you want to remove the name at the Sam Slick Park and, by association, the name of Haliburton itself what do you call the village? Maybe Town of Head Lake or maybe No Head Lake.

David M. Bishop

The solution to COVID-19 starts with keeping <u>your distance.</u>

- ·Wear a face covering.
- Keep 2m apart from anyone outside of your household.
- ·Limit your close contact to your household only.
- ·Wash your hands often.

Immune boosters

from page 7

hours if mixed with mucus and phlegm). Influenza A can last 1.8 hours (survival of SARS-CoV-2 and influenza virus on the human skin: Importance of hand hygiene in COVID-19: Clinical Infectious Diseases, 03 October 2020). Viruses can last even longer on inanimate surfaces. The National Institutes of Health published a study saying that the virus can last up to four hours on copper, 24 hours on cardboard, and 72 hours on stainless steel (NIH, March 2020).

In the air, the virus can last for about three hours, the NIH said.

If you touch a surface with virus particles and then touch your eyes, nose or mouth, the virus has now entered your body.

4. Get vaccinated against influenza. Anyone at any age can get the flu. For some people the flu is mild, but for others it can be severe and even cause death.

Serious problems from the flu can happen to anyone, but people at higher risk include:

- Adults 65 years of age or older
- •Children younger than five years of age
 - Pregnant women
- People with certain conditions, such as asthma, diabetes, or heart

The best way to avoid getting the flu is to get an influenza vaccine ("flu shot") every year. This also lowers your chances of having serious problems from the flu and of spreading it to others.

The flu vaccine stimulates your immune system – your body's defence system – to produce special substances and cells that can fight the flu virus. (The vaccine does NOT cause the flu or increase your risk of getting the flu or other illnesses, such as COVID-19.)

Getting the flu virus can make it easier for you to get other viruses and illnesses. Getting the flu vaccine can help keep you and your lungs healthy. This can be especially important if you're exposed to COVID-19.

Anyone exposed to COVID-19 while fighting the flu would be at higher risk of respiratory complications. It is your responsibility to decrease your risk of hospitalization from influenza. Hospitalization exposes you to other illnesses such as COVID-19.

Flu Season and the COVID-19 **Pandemic**

When there is a viral pandemic, like the coronavirus pandemic, it is more important than ever to get the flu vaccine.

The flu vaccine can help keep you from getting sick and going to the hospital, an important consideration during a coronavirus pandemic. You'll want to do everything you can to keep yourself and those around you healthy and avoid situations that may expose you to the cor-onavirus. It is also possible that our hospitals and health resources will not be able to support the volume of patients when COVID-19 is circulating, and so getting an available vaccination is just sensible.

- 5. Immune boosters:
- No smoking
- No alcohol
- Daily exercise
- Daily belly laugh
- Eight hours sleep
- •Honey, ginger, zinc, vitamin C, esh fruits and vegetables, berries echinacea

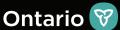
Each one of us is in charge of our own behaviour, which influences our personal health and therefore the health of our family and community. Isn't it empowering to know you can have control over the spread of illness as well as the severity of potential illness?

> Dr. Nell Thomas Minden Hills



Stopping the spread starts with you. Visit ontario.ca/coronavirus to learn more

Paid for by the Government of Ontario







How to inspect and maintain vehicle belts

Responsible vehicle ownership involves taking inventory of the automobile and ensuring it is working at peak capacity. Hundreds of parts work together to keep vehicles on the road, but quite often drivers do not look under the hood until something is amiss.

Routine maintenance is widely acknowledged as a critical component of responsible vehicle ownership, but many motorists may not know how to care for their cars. Belts are one example of components that are integral to efficient, well-running vehicles. The automotive resource iDriveSafely.com indicates that belts are some of the most crucial moving parts in the engine. Belts transmit power between shafts, and all belts, from serpentine belts

to V-belts to timing belts, serve important functions.

Serpentine belt: Firestone" Complete Auto Care says a serpentine belt is a long, snaking, winding belt that keeps parts such as the water pump, alternator, power steering pump, and air conditioning running smoothly. Serpentine belts transport power to automotive accessories. A failing serpentine belt can cause enormous and expensive headaches, including overheating and loss of steer-

V-belts: Also known as drive belts, these are usually found in older vehicles. Unlike serpentine belts, which run through various parts, V-belts run through one or two accessories. Older cars with many bells and whistles will have multiple V-belts, and should one break, it may not cause as much of an issue as if a serpentine belt were to falter.

Timing belt: Advance Auto Parts says that most cars have interference engines in which the clearance between moving parts is so small that they can end up bumping into each other if they're not running on the same timing as one another. That is where the timing belt comes into play. It connects the crankshaft to the camshaft, helping them stay in sync. Failing to pay attention to a timing belt can result in an expensive engine repair.

Belts have finite service lives, and heat and wear and tear are usually their nemeses. It is important to look for fraying or cracking of belts. Even belts that look new may have worn out grooves that lose their grips on matching pulley grooves. Mechanics often use special gauges to check belts.

Belts also may need to be replaced due to oil or grease contamination that can damage the rubber or synthetic rubber. It is important to check the owner's manual and seek advice from a qualified mechanic about when belts should be serviced.





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Top 3 Rust Buster Tips 1. Get your spray while it is warm, early or late summer 2. Don't procrastinate! 3. Do it every year regardless of age of vehicle Niche Auto, Chris Anderson





BAutumn Can Care







How to effectively and safely sanitize a car

The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way people live. One readily felt effect was spending more time at home. Vehicles sat idle in driveways and some automotive insurance providers reduced rates because people were driving much less.

Even with stay-at-home measures in place, people still need to leave their homes to stock up on essentials, such as food or medicine. In other cases, people may have been essential workers who drive for a living, including delivery drivers or health care personnel who were incapable of working from home.

Any time a person goes out in public, he or she runs the risk of contracting viruses. Bacteria and germs may reside on various surfaces, including those inside vehicles.

People want to protect themselves and now are more aware of the importance of frequently cleaning and sanitizing their cars. Keeping a vehicle safe to drive without affecting its upholstery or electronic components is paramount.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention makes a distinction between cleaning and disinfecting. Cleaning refers to the removal of germs, dirt and impurities from surfaces. It does not kill germs, but can lower their numbers. Disinfecting refers to using chemicals to kill germs on surfaces. The following are some ways to deeply clean and sanitize a car.

Wash hands. First and foremost, it is crucial to wash your hands before and after using the car. This can reduce the likelihood of growing ill because of transferred viruses or bacteria.

Use rubbing alcohol. Solutions that

contain 70 percent alcohol are effective against many viruses and bacteria, including coronaviruses, says the CDC. Furthermore, Jeff Stout, Executive Director of Global Innovation at Yanfeng Automotive Interiors, says that, for the most part, nearly every interior surface of a vehicle can be cleaned with isopropyl alcohol. Plastic to painted chrome to imitation leather have been tested to ensure they don't degrade when exposed to pure isopropyl alcohol.

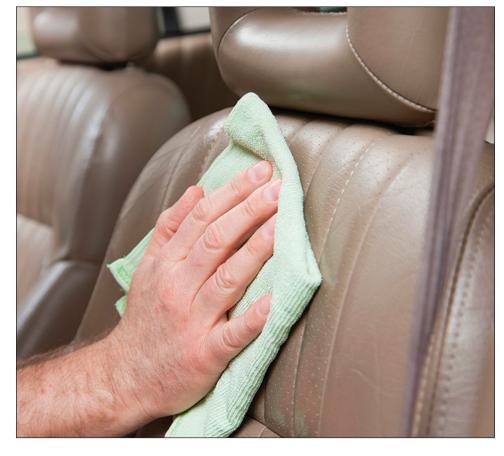
Avoid bleach or hydrogen peroxide. While bleach and peroxide are very effective cleaners and sanitizers, they are likely to damage a car's upholstery, according to Consumer Reports.

Use soap and water: Experts say that vigorous washing with a soap-and-water solution can be effective against many contaminants because it breaks down the protective envelope that surrounds coronaviruses and other germs to disarm them. Friction also can help to break down germ cells during cleaning.

"You want to do the best with what you have, so even soap and water can chip away at the risk," says Stephen Thomas, M.D., Chief of Infectious Diseases and Director of Global Health at Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, NY

Address frequently touched surfaces. Pay attention to the steering wheel, door handles, buttons, touchscreen displays, shift lever, and more when sanitizing. Each of these items can harbor germs.

Deep-cleaning a vehicle has become a necessity since COVID-19 emerged. Frequently cleaning and sanitizing can help make vehicles safer to operate.



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†Applies to single rear wheel vehicles only. Diesel model not eligible. *Up to 5 litres of oil. Disposal fees may be extra. Does not apply to diesel engines.

Offer Ends October 30th, 2020

Tire maintenance keeps drivers safe

Maintaining tires is an important component of safe driving. Tires are some of the hardest working parts on a car or truck and are subjected to wear and tear every time rubber meets the road.

Tires affect many components of driving, including handling, braking and the comfort of the ride. Maintaining tires makes driving safe not only for drivers and their passengers, but also for fellow

Poor tire maintenance can lead to premature wear and potentially result in a blowout. It is important to visually inspect tires as often as possible. Drivers should look for overall tread wear. Pay special attention to tread wear on one edge of the tires, which could indicate poor alignment. Erratic tread wear may mean tires are out of balance.

Drivers also should pay attention to how their cars drive and sound. Unusual vibration or thumping noises suggest issues with the tires. A car that pulls in one direction also may be experiencing tire problems.

Vehicle owners should be aware of the routine maintenance steps that can keep them safe and improve the life expectancy

Tire pressure: Keeping tires properly

inflated is one of the most important steps to maintaining them. Tires lose around 1 psi per month, and underinflated or overinflated tires can contribute to unusual wear, blowouts and even excessive fuel consumption.

Rotation: Check the owner's manual or recommendations from the tire manufacturer, but know that most mechanics advise having tires rotated every 5,000 to 8,000 miles. Rotation helps distribute wear more evenly on tires.

Balancing: Balancing also helps minimize uneven wear and tear. Balanced tires are achieved by using small weights attached to the wheels to limit vibration of the tire and wheels as they turn. New tires should be balanced, and tires also should be balanced after one or more is removed to repair a puncture.

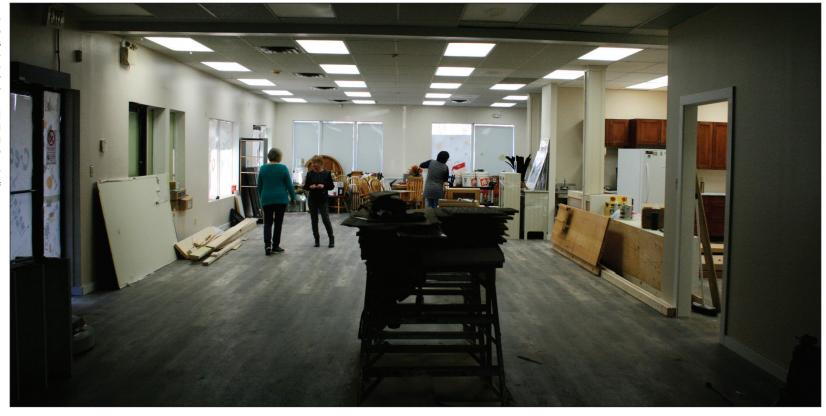
Alignment: Vehicles have wheel alignment measurements that pertain to manufacturers' specifications. Alignment that falls outside of the range can impact handling, fuel economy and tread wear. A drift or pull suggests alignment problems and should be addressed.

Vehicle owners should keep tire inspection and maintenance in mind as part of their overall car care plan.

RIDGEWOOD FOR 12560 Hwy 35 N, Minden 705-286-2890

markeno@ridgewoodford.com

SIRCH staff has been working to prepare the site of the new SIRCH Bistro and Marketplace for its upcoming opening in the weeks ahead. Using the former Shopper's Drugmart space at the corner of Maple Avenue and Victoria Street, SIRCH will be serving food and selling goods while also providing a training opportunity to those in their Cook It Up and Ready for Retail programs. / JENN WÄTT Staff



SIRCH to open bistro in Haliburton Village

JENN WATT

Editor

After years of running successful cooking and retail programs around Haliburton County, SIRCH Community Services is expanding, bringing together multiple facets of its operations under one roof and creating a community space.

Renovations are underway at SIRCH Bistro & Marketplace, a 4,000-square-foot space where Shopper's Drugmart once was at the corner of Maple Avenue and Victoria Street in Haliburton. Once open, the accessible space will feature a commercial kitchen, dining area, marketplace for local artists and entrepreneurs to sell their prod-

ucts, and space for other programming.

The local charity was able to move forward with the plans thanks to a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation and will be appealing to the community for additional funds in the months to come.

"What we proposed to do was take over the downstairs [of 49 Maple Ave.] and renovate it into a multiservice centre. So there will be a training centre, which which we now know is going to also have to be ready to do virtual learning, online learning, as well as in person," said executive director Gena Robertson on Oct. 14. "And then our commercial kitchen has moved, we'll be doing all our meals out of there, our free meals, and then we wanted a little practice bistro that food service people could practice in."

SIRCH's offices are on the second storey of 49 Maple Ave., located down the hall from the social services office and Fleming CREW Employment Centre. Including the training opportunities in the new bistro and marketplace is likely to provide added benefits for job seekers and those looking to upgrade skills.

For several years, SIRCH has been offering training programs for restaurant and retail service called Cook It Up and Ready For Retail, which teach applicable skills to students and real-world practice. In the past, the programs have been offered for a few months a year and have used local restaurants on days when they're closed. The new space will allow year-round training.

"Who we are trying to work with are people who are unemployed or underemployed or often on social assistance and need some confidence building and need some skill building to be successful in employment," Robert-

Stats on Cook It Up and Ready For Retail demonstrate there is a demand in the local economy for people with food service and retail skills. In the last five years, 51 people have graduated from the two programs combined (80 per cent of those who enrolled graduated), and of those 45 were employed upon graduation.

SIRCH board member Marc Beisheim said the marketplace portion of the space could be of use to a wide range of area residents. "As the marketplace concept evolves and develops it's going to be an easy point of entry for the public to [access]. [For] nascent entrepreneurs ... that



Marc Beisheim and Gena Robertson are excited for what the next months will hold as SIRCH opens its bistro and marketplace. Funding will be needed to enhance the commercial kitchen and to purchase technology to livestream classes from the space, a necessity during the pandemic. /JENN . WATT Staff

will help get curbside visibility much sooner than they might otherwise be able to on their own," he said. Robertson and her team have a track record of innovation and ground-breaking, he added. "This space really arms her to move faster, quicker, stronger, try stuff, be innovative, see what works, pivot."

While grant funds were applied for pre-pandemic, SIRCH staff is keenly aware that changes to program delivery may need to be made, which could mean fewer people training in the space at once and using live streaming technology to deliver classes remotely.

Purchasing this new equipment, along with additions to the commercial kitchen, will be part of the organiza-tion's annual fundraising drive, Gifts from the Heart, which launches in November.

Their goal this year is to raise \$110,000, \$60,000 of which will be for their food programs that include free frozen meals distributed through various programs around the county and the Lunch Is On Us free weekly meals. The remaining \$50,000 of the goal is for the capital purchases.

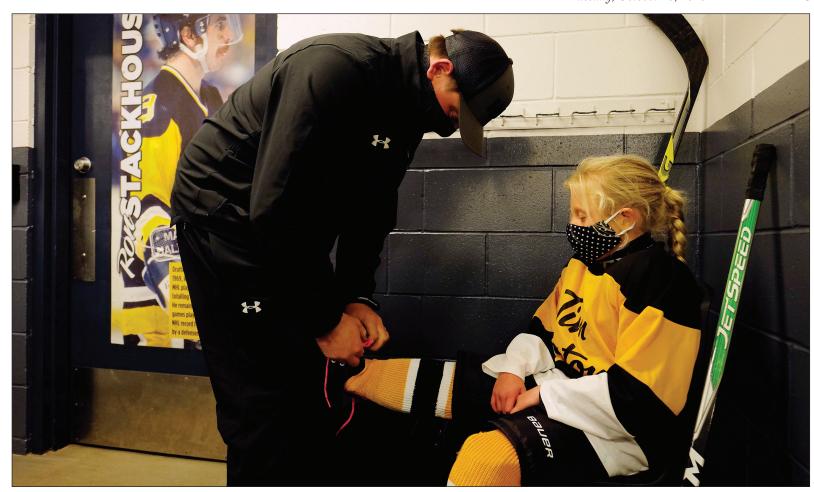
Önce SIRCH Bistro & Marketplace is open, the plan is for members of the public to come by to purchase breakfast or lunch, or peruse the items for sale, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

We want it to be really friendly and inviting and informal," Robertson said. "And we'll have Wi-Fi and if people want to come here and hang out for a bit, they can, depending on how long the lineup is." She is hopeful seniors who live in nearby Parklane Apartments will also frequent the bistro.

Details on fundraising for SIRCH Bistro & Marketplace as well as its opening date will be featured in upcoming editions of the Haliburton Echo.



Lydia Kim works to clean up the space that will become SIRCH Bistro and Marketplace. /JENN WATT Staff



Hockey season returns

Jeremy Miscio helps his daughter Fynnley with her skates before the under-nine practice on Thursday, Oct. 15 at the A.J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton. There are close to 170 registered players for this season. The Storm has implemented COVID-19 safety measures this year to have a season, which include a cap on how many can be in the arena (nobody can stay or watch from the lobby) and players must come dressed to play except for skates and helmets, which they put on once in the arena. /DARREN LUM Staff





Above, a Highland Storm hockey player takes a shot on net while warming up for the under-nine practice on Thursday, Oct. 15 at the A.J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton./DARREN LUM Staff

Left, a Highland Storm hockey player moves the puck from behind.

Looking for indoor pandemic-friendly exercise?

The Highlands Squash Club is the pertect place to get some exercise, with others in your immediate family or bubble. In an effort to support members of the community who wish to get Covid-safe, indoor exercise during the cold and slippery winter days ahead the club is offering a six-month trial family membership for \$250. This membership covers anyone living in the same residence.

The membership also entitles the members to unlimited use of the courts, at any time of the day or night, through the use of a personal access code. Simple pandemic-friendly procedures are in place to protect the members. The building is a two-court facility with a small number of users and limited facilities. As such you are unlikely to encounter others in the building at the

same time. Members are asked to clean the few high contact surfaces before, and after playing.

"Squash is appropriate for any age and is easy to learn," says Don Gage. "What a great way to get the young ones, not to mention the adults, away from their computer games."

Anyone who is feeling the stress of the COVID-19 pandemic, or anything else for that matter, will find that squash is an excellent stress reliever.

Squash is considered to be an excellent form of cardiovascular exercise as well as a means of improving coordination, strength and agility. The competitive nature of the game keeps you motivated and eager to return.

Under normal circumstances the club offers open

houses for new members to learn the game from the more experienced members. In our COVID-19 world there will be a need to pre-arrange private coaching from an experienced player. The coach can safely provide guidance from the observation level of the court on the second level of the building. This far exceeds the twometre distance required for COVID-19 safety.

The Squash Club is a little known recreational gem located in Haliburton Village beside the arena and across from the skateboard park. For membership information contact Dave Howe at info@mysquash.ca.

Submitted by the Highlands Squash Club



Shadow Lake \$629,000

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- Developed shoreline is sandy with a gradual, easy entry, Potential for severance



Percy Lake \$680,000

- 3.9 acre building lot, 555' of waterfront Incredible point lot with big lake views
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- HST INCLUDED!



Benoir Lake \$334,900

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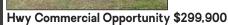
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- 666 Ft Rd Frtg, 3.4 Acr
- 868 Sq Ft Bldg, High traffic location
- Between Haliburton & Carnarvon on Hwy 118



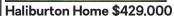


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Snowmobiling, ATVing, biking, horse riding

Portage 2 Redpine Lk, for canoe routes

· Nicely finished, open concept living space and

• 0.67-acre, flat level lot, 170+ FT of shallow sand

Spacious open concept cottage, stunning views



Long Lake Lot \$199.900

also available

Vacant lot with 100 feet of shoreline, approx. 1 acre

Year-round private road access, Adjacent cottage

• 2-lake chain with Miskwabi Lake for miles of boating



Commercial Opportunity \$599,000

- Two parcels zoning 59 acres, 5 acres zoned commercial highway & 54 zoned disposal industrial
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Spacious principle rooms, 2 bdrms, 2 baths

Private location near two lake with beautiful



- to town & across from the rail trail
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Industrial Park Road \$799,000

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Large, open space, concrete floor

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Industrial Park Rd \$1,200,000

- 10,000 sq ft of mixed use industrial and commercial space
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- Unlimited possibilities with this fantastic building!



County Road 21 \$750,000

· Commercial property in Haliburton

• Prime corner location, 1.5 acres

• Sale includes land, & building

• Rental house as an added feature





Kabakwa Lake \$995,000

· Beautiful western view

2000 sq ft, winterized

High speed internet

Trooper Lake \$325,000





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· Acreage close to Haliburton Village & Pinestone

• Beautifully Treed with driveway already installed.

Ideal for contractors or manufacturing

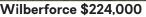






Gull Lake \$549,000

- Large private waterfront lot on a premium lakes
- 3.2 Acres, 240' of waterfrontage, level building site
- Hardpacked sand, shallow entry, cleaned and



 Rustic get away home/cottage With guest cabin & outbuildings

Denna Lake \$420,000

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Sunset exposure plus sand beach

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Making sure hunt camp stays safe

STEVE GALEA

Special to the Echo

Statistically speaking, hunting is a very safe sport. Firearms-related accidents in the field in Ontario are exceedingly rare thanks for the most part to our excellent and mandatory Ontario Hunter Education Program. This has not just taught hunters the best practices to stay safe, it has also instilled a culture of safety that they carry with them in the field.

Safety in the camp

Unfortunately, the place where most injuries occur is at camp itself. This is primarily because it is the place where most time is spent and the greatest concentration of people are. The good news is it is not difficult to make your camp a safer place where the likelihood of injury is minimized.

One way to do this is to set a few ground rules that every hunter must follow. These should include:

- No rough housing in the camp.
- If you have Covid-19 symptoms or

potential exposure, stay at home.

- No smoking in the building or, if that's not preferred, no smoking in bed.
- Firearms must be unloaded before entering and placed in a locker or other safe location.
- If anyone has any medical conditions or allergies that others in camp should be aware of, make sure they are known. This includes instructions on what to do should a related emergency event, such as a seizure, allergic reaction, or heart issue,
- No overindulgence in drugs or alco-

- No hunting if the effects of last night's partying are still evident.
- Keep pathways that are used in the dark to go to the washroom or outhouse free of trip hazards. Keep the common
- areas relatively tidy and obstruction free.Keep outside fires and deep fryers a safe location away from the buildings.
- Designate emergency exits and have a fire plan.
- Do not light fuel-powered stoves or lanterns inside.
- Drive ATVs and other vehicles slowly within campgrounds.
- Make sure all generators, stoves, and other appliances are in safe and proper working order

Along with these rules, every camp should have:

- A well-stocked first aid kit and someone who has a basic understanding of first aid.
- At least one person trained in CPR too.
- A means to contact the outside world, ev en if that needs to be a satellite phone.
- Fully functioning smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
 - Adequate lighting and ventilation.
- Safe heat sources and clean chimneys
 An appropriate amount of fire extin-
- And a water purifier or clean water source.

The camp should also be in generally good repair so that bunk beds are safe, railings are secure and floorboards, wiring, walls and windows are sound.

Safety in the field

A few safe practices in the field can go a long way towards keeping everyone safe too. They include:

- Don't expect the new hunter to camp to know the area like you do. Take the time to familiarize him or her with stand locations on maps and routes in and out of stands or where you expect them to
- If getting into a stand location is not obvious, escort the new person there and pick them up the first few times until you are certain they are familiar with the lay of the land.
- Everyone needs to be honest about their physical limitations. If you cannot help hauling out an animal or doing other heavy work, say so. It's better than having a heart attack or other serious injury.
- No one should be allowed to use a tree stand unless it is deemed safe and they use an approved safety harness properly.
- Ensure everyone is aware of what the day's weather will bring.
- Ensure all boats have the required amount of personal floatation devices, lighting, oars or paddles and boater safety
- Do not take to water if conditions are too rough for the available watercraft.
- Always make sure others are aware of your route and destination, each time vou leave camp.
- If a hunt plan has been set in place do not deviate from it.
- Have a means to communicate with fellow hunters. Cellphones or two-way radios are best.
- Make sure each hunter knows how to use a map and compass or GPS.
- Ensure everyone wears the required amount of hunter orange.
- arcs of fire. Make sure everyone dresses appro-

 Drive your ATVs with the appropriate amount of caution. When planning a hunt, designate safe

see page 17



Keep your hunt camp safe and happy

from page 16

priately for the weather.

 If weather turns dangerous, re-evaluate the day's plan.

A safe plan

In addition to all this, there are certain pieces of information that should be posted in a place everyone in camp is aware of.

This should include:

- The camp's 911 address, if it has one.
- Detailed directions to camp or a meeting place that you would give to

emergency service workers should you

• The location of the nearest medical centre and the most direct route there. One copy of this should be kept in an outbuilding or vehicle too, so you have one should a fire prevent you from accessing

It seems like a lot, but it's not. In fact, I'd wager most established camps have these measures (and more) in place already. Regardless, the work required to ensure all these measures remain in place is well worth it. Hunt camps should be a happy and safe place, after all.

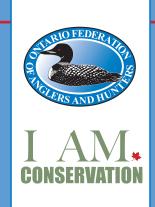




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Dysart discusses reducing speeding without sign pollution

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

Dysart et al councillors discussed the issue of speeding throughout the municipality - and how to slow down drivers who are doing it - after receiving a request from constituents for warning signs on Loon Lake Road and for a speed reduction on Wigamog Road.

At an Oct. 13 committee-of-the-whole meeting, Rob Camelon, director of public works, said he didn't know if requests were coming forward due to recent traffic counts down in the municipality, but said, "it just feels like the floodgates are opening on people concerned with vehicles travelling perceivably fast on municipal roads." He noted there is a policy addressing non-regulatory signage, but not for determining speed limits, or community safety zones.

Kathy Jolivet, the new president of the Loon Lake Property Owners Association, wrote to council to share that at the association's AGM in September, a number of Loon Lake Road residents "had expressed concern regarding the high rate of speed of some travellers coming off of Hwy 118 heading to the government dock.

"If you have ever travelled along this road, you will know that is a winding road with some tight turns and drops which makes walking the road very dangerous with vehicles travelling at a high rate of speed," she wrote. Members of the association were looking to place signs reading "slow," and "watch for pedestrians" on the route, "to encourage vehicles to exercise caution." The association already has the signs, according to Jolivet's letter, and were seeking council approval for them.

Camelon noted the size and style of the signs are not those prescribed in the Ontario Traffic Manual, and said, "we'd have to have a real good reason not to follow it when possible.

Additionally, Camelon said the annual daily traffic on Loon Lake Road is 53, with an 85th percentile speed of 50 kilometres an hour.

"... I don't think there's a speeding issue there, if they're doing 50 kilometres an hour," he said. "What I'm finding now is there's a lot of perceived speeding on some of these roads, and maybe it's because of the alignment of the road, maybe it's because of the brush out near the road, I'm not really sure.

Besides that, he was concerned about the efficacy of signage in reducing speed, and the problem of sign pollution.

"I don't think it's something the signage is going to fix, so I just want council to be very cognizant of that," he said. "And if we do start allowing signs on every road, that people aren't paying attention to, the sign pollution is very much a real thing. We don't want to start clogging up our corridor with signage that people don't pay attention to.

Mayor Andrea Roberts asked if it was ossible to do something similar to what Haliburton Lake Cottagers' Association had done in the past, with the association paying for the signs, and the municipality paying for the posts and installation.

Camelon said it had been allowed in the past, but reiterated his concern with using signs that might not be effective, and that in the past they had offered repurposed sign posts but as they were running out of those, would need to start purchasing materials to accommodate requests.

"I'm not a big advocate of signs," he said. "If people don't want to pay attention to the big black and white signs that say 50 km/hour, they're probably not going to pay attention to the other



At the Oct. 13 Dysart et al committee of the whole meeting, councillors discussed requests to reduce the speed limit and increase warning signage for speeding drivers on Loon Lake Road and Wigamog Road./Screenshot from Oct. 13 Dysart council meeting.

ones, but it shows an effort to get people to slow down, due diligence of some respect."

Councillor Larry Clarke asked if it might be possible to look at what is being done in other areas, insofar as mitigating safety to determine if sightlines on the road, pedestrian usage and road conditions warranted the township being involved rather than the responsibility being incumbent on neighbourhood groups.

"I know some of the larger centres have policy for traffic calming but they also have engineering departments that administer and investigate it," said

Deputy Mayor Pat Kennedy acknowledged the municipality had received "more and more of these" requests.

"We also have to remember these are all dead-end roads we have in the municipality," he said. "It's your neighbour that's speeding, it's not Joe Blow from Kokomo driving through to get from one area to another. It's your neighbour, so perhaps the lake associations in the neighbourhood should start to advise their neighbours to slow down.'

Kennedy said the more the municipality is spending on improving the roads, the more the issue would arise.

'And perhaps a letter from council to the OPP asking for some presence for the \$2.2 million a year we're giving them to help the speeding on some of our side roads may also be beneficial," he said.

Councillor Walt McKechnie agreed that lake associations, which he said send out important information, could help.

"I really think they should be educating people more and more, and really drilling down on them, to slow down," he said. "... I should be told in a message that I'm driving too fast. I really think $\bar{\mbox{we}}$ have to educate. It's the neighbours who you're going to run over or run into. I can't emphasize enough that we have to educate the people to slow down. Includ-

Councillor John Smith said that Camelon had "made the point that sign proliferation doesn't necessarily accomplish anything," and asked if a Haliburton Lake program approved by council this past spring had shown slower traffic as a result of additional signage there.

Camelon replied he didn't have any data to suggest one way or another, though he hadn't received further complaints about speeders in that area, which he said could be unrelated.

"If we don't have data to support the success of these things, I'd be cautious about signage all over the place, until we can have some confidence they have an impact," said Smith.

Though some roads were dead-end streets, Smith said others were roads potentially offering shortcuts from one location to another, or were used by trucks as part of business enterprises located on them. He said a planned community safety zone program should address what is an appropriate speed limit, road by road, so the OPP had something to enforce.

"I think we need to look at this more holistically, as opposed to responding to individual initiatives, where, oh, I'll pay for a sign, and then they get popping up all over the place," he said.

"I think the signs at Haliburton Lake have helped, but you've got to have common sense," said McKechnie. "We all have to have common sense. You can't fix stupid. We're all driving too fast. I just think it's gotta be something we're told every day about in some kind of a message. I really think we've got to educate the people to slow down. These roads aren't built to drive fast on and we all do it. There's got to be common sense."

The request for a speed reduction from 50 kilometres per hour to 40 kilometres per hour and additional signage on Wigamog Road to reduce the speed of drivers on the road between County Road 21 and the Minden Hills boundary came from Marc Beisheim and Jill Vasey.

"As a local resident who walks, runs, cycles and crosses this roadway regularly, we've observed that the number of other people doing the same is constant," reads their letter, describing the stretch of road has being quite developed with over 100 homes and cottages, and two public beach access points. "This section of road also includes sharp corners with limited visibility and multiple properties with lake access that requires crossing the road from their dwellings. The roadway itself is narrow with no way to avoid sharing it with motorists."

"This is not the first concern with speeding on municipal roads," reads Camelon's report. "A traffic survey was recently completed and shows that Wigamog Road has an annual daily traffic count of 334 and an 85th percentile speed of 55 km/h in an area posted 50 km/h."

Councillor Wood-Roberts agreed with the letter.

"It is a very, very busy road, there is a lot of dense areas of population, and I think we should reduce the limit on that somewhat if we have that capability," she

Camelon said the municipality would have to work in conjunction with Minden Hills to determine if they wanted to change the speed on the road within their jurisdiction as well.

Wood-Roberts said the speed limit of 50 kilometres per hour is quick for the nar-

"I just think it should be reduced," she said. "I don't drive down there a lot but when I do there's a significant number of pedestrians, a lot of people have to cross the road to get to their lake access. There's a school bus. I think it should be

Kennedy said he'd be the first one to get a ticket, and said that pedestrians there too walk "on both sides of the road, three abreast, so there's lots of criticism and complaints on both sides."

"I'm hearing it's a windy road, I'm hearing a mention of school buses," said Camelon. "It sounds to me like there's an appetite to develop some sort of policy on this, so we can actually check off some boxes, either yes it meets our criteria or it

Again, he reminded council to consider what a decision on one road could lead to

"If we're going to do it for Wigamog, why not Wonderland? If we're doing it on Wonderland, why not Peninsula? We've just got to be very, very careful how we start this."

Roberts asked for a report on what would warrant reduced speeds, looking at the topic as a bigger picture to determine consistency through a policy for road networks rather than individual roads on a case-by-case basis. Wood-Roberts asked for information on traffic counts to be included in the report.

Camelon mentioned in the interim, he could pass traffic counts and information on to OPP, and the municipality could consider adding a line item for a paid duty OPP officer to watch roads on cer-

Puzzle presented perfect fit as souvenir

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

Coming next month, the public will be able to literally piece together most of the colourful cache treasures that can be found in Highlands East from the comfort of their own home with a new locally produced puzzle.

The Municipality of Highlands East has enlisted the services of TheOccurence Puzzle Factory in Haliburton to produce its first geocaching puzzle depicting a collage of more than 35 geocaching treasures, the Geocaching Capital of Canada Geotour – Highlands East's claim

Geocaching entails using a GPS device or smartphone to search for hidden treasures outside.

The idea of ordering a puzzle came to the municipality's economic development coordinator, Joanne Vanier, after the puzzle company included Highlands East as the geocaching capital of Canada in their Haliburton County Road Trip puzzle.

"We've been asked by a lot of geocachers for souvenirs for geocaching. They're looking for T-shirts, or hats, or badges, or something, you know, for souvenirs," she

At the start of the year, when budgeting, she had decided on T-shirts, but changed her mind

"When I thought of the idea for a puzzle, 'Well, it's one size fits all.' It's a little easier to manage inventory with [not] worrying about the right number of sizes. It just seemed like the perfect fit," she said.

Vanier hopes the puzzle will not only promote geocaching in the area, but also the municipality.

She decided which treasures were depicted in the 504-piece puzzle, selecting the "colourful fun ones" from her collection of hundreds of images.

Highlands East resident Jodi Rupnow, a regular contributor to geocaching promotion, assisted with the

Fifty puzzles have been ordered and if needed, more will be added.

TheOccurence has also produced a puzzle for the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust: a photo of the Burnt River winding its way through the Dahl Forest taken by Peter Dahl. The first 50 puzzles are signed by Dahl.

Agnew's General Store in Wilberforce will carry the geocaching puzzle and Vanier is contacting other retailers in the region as well

The actual image will not be revealed until the puzzle is delivered, which is scheduled for the first week of November. Look for a sneak peek through Facebook at the Geocaching Capital of Canada page. "Like us and you'll get a teaser," Vanier said, laughing.



We've been asked by a lot of geocachers for souvenirs for geocaching.

> – Joanne Vanier Economic development coordinator Highlands East

Wilberforce Curling Club shutters doors for season

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

The following are brief reports of items discussed at the Oct. 13 meeting of Highlands East council.

The Wilberforce Curling Club won't operate this season. "After an extensive and exhaustive debate about the potential risks and liabilities we face as a club, it was overwhelmingly decided that we can not move forward successfully and responsibly with curling this year," a letter posted to the club's Facebook page by club president Gord Fitch on Sept. 11 stated.

The club's building is a municipal facility and must operate under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, the letter said.

"Under the mountain of regulations, with limited membership dues, lack of regular outside revenue

sources, and substantial increased costs the fun we are use to will be greatly sacrificed and our future success hampered."

COVID-19 hampers building work

In her monthly building report, chief building official Laurie Devolin said construction in the area was down with permits at 135, down eight from 2019, and a loss of construction values to the tune of \$2,319,944.

The sentiment from builders, she said, was a wait and do it next year - the result of the prohibitive costs of building materials related to the scarcity of materials from supply lines disrupted by COVID-19. Devolin was hopeful though.

We'll see. This time of year gets extremely busy with a lot of projects coming so they can get started before the snow flies," she said.

Fire calls at seven-year high

During the fire report, fire chief Chris Baughman said there were 40 calls in September, up from 28 from 2015, the previous high. Up to this point in the year there have been 254 calls up until Oct. 13. This is one shy of 2018

when there were 255 calls up to Oct. 13 that year.

Deputy mayor Cecil Ryall had concerns about the rise in calls related to more people in the area.

Baughman said he believed the trend will continue, but isn't concerned because of the nature of the calls.

" ... where I see the increases of unauthorized burning or the open-air burning people are being confused with all the rain and the cold temperatures thinking that the summer regulations have ended. It's just burning without looking at the bylaws themselves or regulations so we haven't had an increase in structural fires or an increase of bad accidents. It's kind of across the board," he said.



Online marketing campaigns are a must in 2020.

- Haliburton Echo and Minden Times websites receive a combined 60,000 hits a month
- Breaking news updated throughout the week
- Listed first on Google when "Haliburton news" and "Minden news" searched

Call 705-457-1037 ext. 31 or 32 to advertise with us today!



Crossword brought to you by



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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Cold War player
- 5. Flat-bottomed sailboat
- 10. Jamaican tangelo
- 14. Debauched man
- 15. Less covered
- 16. Require to live
- 17. Patrick and Aykroyd are two
- 18. Mixes
- 19. Insurance claim expenses
- 20. Tries to persuade
- 22. Equal (prefix)
- 23. Czech name for Prague
- 24. London soccer team
- 27. Greek letter
- 30. Small Eurasian deer
- 31. Swiss river
- 32. Miller beer
- 35. Less appealing
- 37. 8th month (abbr.)
- __ Alto, California city
- 39. Grandmothers 40. American time
- 41. NW Chinese people
- 42. "Westworld" actress __ Rachel Wood 43. Northeastern US university
- 44. Poplar trees (Spanish)
- 45. Hip hop legend Kool Moe ___
- 46. Not or
- 47. Corpuscle count (abbr.)
- 48. Comedienne Gasteyer
- 49. Fonts
- 52. Female cattle mammary gland
- 55. Down time
- 56. Spiritual leader
- 60. Small brown and gray American rail
- 61. Trimmed by cutting
- 63. NY Giants owner
- 64. A long narrative poem 65. Old World lizard
- 66. Product for sale
- 67. Shut Your Pie Hole (abbr.)
- 68. Pacific Island country
- 69. Whale ship captain

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Language
- 2. Fly high in the air
- 3. Made musical sounds
- 4. Organized again
- 5. TV channel
- 6. Unable to fly
- 7. Get up
- 8. Air traveler
- 9. Married woman 10. Take weapons from
- 11. Sicilian city
- 12. Actress Remini
- 13. Thought
- 21. Infections
- 23. Golf score 25. Hill or rocky peak
- 26. Witch
- 27. Adjusted
- 28. Succulent plant
- 29. Forearm bones
- 32. Hot fluid in the earth's crust
- 33. Subatomic particle
- 34. Part of an organism
- 36.007's creator

- 37. Burned material residue 38. Brain layer: __ mater
- 40. Unable to partake
- 41. Lesion
- 43. Historic railroad company (abbr.)
- 44. Basics
- 46. Scottish port
- 47. Flower cluster
- 49. Instruct
- 50. Untamed
- 51. Moth genus
- 52. Utilizes
- 53. Foolish
- 54. Fall in small drops 57. A place to get clean
- 58. La __ Tar Pits
- 59. Metrical foot
- 61. Semiliquid food
- 62. Small crow

Answers on page 14

Strong fall start for U—Links with 21 projects underway

U-Links has had an exciting start to the fall 2020 academic term, with a high number of community-based research projects matched with several departments at Trent University.

A total of 21 research projects involving 26 student researchers have been matched within Trent's biology, history, school of business, and school of the environment departments for the fall semester. One project was also matched to Fleming Col-

lege's credit for product course.

The project cycle began with uncertainty due to the COVID-19 crisis, but research interest from community organizations, slight changes to project design, and the facilitation of low-risk essential student field placements within Haliburton County meant the project cycle was able

'We are thrilled that our community partners have continued to support us despite all of the uncertainties over the last few months, and that our staff team and management committee has demonstrated so much resiliency and creativity in adapting our services," said Amanda Duncombe-Lee, program coordinator.

Project topic areas include biodiversity monitoring with the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust, the impacts of the Canada Emergency Response Benefit for job seekers for the City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County Poverty Reduction Roundtable, and correlations between dental caries and diabetes in low income families for Haliburton County Volunteer Dental Outreach.

Approximately half of the projects were designed to be completed remotely, where students can access resources and attend meetings online from home or school, with the Community Benthos Biomonitoring Program projects requiring a combination of both fieldwork and remote instruction. All essential fieldwork was successfully completed by students and U-Links

staff before the Thanksgiving weekend.
U-Links would like to sincerely thank
all community hosts, students, and faculty for their time, commitment, and ongoing support for community-based research and student experiential learning. A special thank you goes out to all participating lake associations for stepping up to provide safe work environments and travel for students doing fieldwork on our beautiful lakes.

U-Links is currently accepting research project proposals for the winter academic term. Community organizations can contact Amanda Duncombe-Lee, program coordinator, at aduncombe-lee@ulinks.ca or call the office at 705-286-2411.

Submitted by U-Links Centre for Community-Based Research



COUNTY OF HALIBURTON LAND DIVISION COMMITTEE NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CONSENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 53(5)(a) of the Planning Act and Section 3, O.Reg. 197/96, as amended, that the following Applications for Consent have been submitted to the Haliburton County Land Division Committee, the consent granting authority in these

AND FURTHER THAT An electronic meeting will be held Monday, November 9, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. to consider these applications.

AND FURTHER THAT this meeting will be held through remote electronic participation in accordance with the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended by Bill 187, the Municipal Emergency Act, 2020 and an Order in Council of March 28, 2020, which amended the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act and prohibits organized public events of more than five people.

The media and the general public can view the Land Division Committee meeting webcast via the County of Haliburton YouTube channel: https://youtu.be/tXXZu9PbapM

AND FURTHER THAT these Applications for Consent will be heard by the Land Division Committee:

File No. H-018/20

Applicant: Lon David Duncombe

Location of the Property: Part Lot 29, Concession 8, Geographic Township of Guilford, now in the Municipality of Dysart et al.

Nature of the Application: Easement for Bell Services

Additional information regarding any of the above-noted applications is available for public inspection at the Land Division Office by appointment during regular business hours, Monday to Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If a person or public body that files an appeal of a decision of the Land Division Committee in respect of the proposed consent does not make written submissions to the Land Division Committee before it gives or refuses to give a provisional consent, the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal may dismiss the appeal

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Land Division Committee in respect of the proposed consent, you must make a written request to the undersigned.

Dated at the Township of Minden Hills this 20 day of October, 2020.

Lisa Gillan Secretary-Treasurer Haliburton County Land Division Committee
11 Newcastle Street P. O. Box 399 Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 Telephone: (705) 286-1333 or 1-866-886-8815, Ext. 248 Fax: (705) 286-4829 E-mail: lgillan@county.haliburton.on.ca

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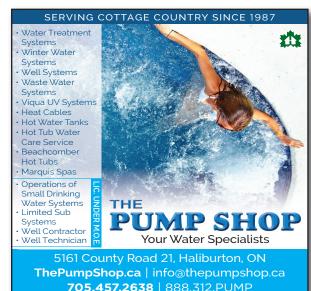
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War Boy

To mark the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, over the course of eight weeks, the Écho is publishing Haliburton resident Martin Hofland's first-person account of living through the war as a child in Holland, originally published in his book, War Boy. This is the fifth instalment.

Sixth move to a Nazi place

The next day, while we were having dinner, the German S.S. stormed into the house, shouting "ein minit und dan hier aus" (one minute then out of here). They pushed their rifles against our stomachs. My mother picked up my baby sister, grabbed her identification and food ration coupons, and we walked out the door. We stood on the road outside the gate with nowhere to go. My brother Dick was pushed out also, but he had to go back into the house, to the attic, to cut the thin antenna wire from his secret radio receiver. If the S.S. had found the

NOTICE (Applicant -ANDISON/WENTWORTH)

IN THE MATTER OF THE MUNICIPAL ACT AND IN THE MATTER OF A PROPOSED BY-LAW OF THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF HIGHLANDS EAST TO CLOSE, STOP-UP AND CONVEY CERTAIN PORTIONS OF AN ORIGINAL SHORE ROAD ALLOWANCE ALONG THE SHORE OF STORMY LAKE, MORE PARTICULARLY HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED.

 ${\bf NOTICE~IS~HEREBY~GIVEN}, pursuant~to~the~{\it Municipal}$ Act, S.O. 2001, and the Municipal Procedures, that the Township Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East proposes to consider and if deemed advisable, to pass at its regular meeting to be held at the Council Chambers, WILBERFORCE, Ontario on Tuesday, the 10th of November, 2020, at 9:00 a.m., a By-Law to close, stop-up and convey to the adjacent land owners the following described lands:

> Part of the Original Shore Road Allowance in front of Lot 26, Concession 13, Township of Glamorgan, Municipality of Highlands East, County of Haliburton, shown as Part 1 on a Preliminary Plan of Survey made by Greg Bishop Surveying and Consulting Ltd., dated May 27, 2020.

The Preliminary Plan of Survey is available to you for inspection by making an appointment at the Municipality of Highlands East offices, Wilberforce, Ontario.

The above described lands, by resolution, have been declared to be surplus. If you wish to attend the virtual meeting, please call or email the Municipal Clerk prior to the day of the public meeting so you can be provided with a link or phone number for the meeting. If you do not have the capability to attend a virtual meeting, please provide written comments to the Municipal Clerk prior to the public meeting.

Any person or his or her counsel, solicitor or agent who attends the virtual meeting shall be afforded an opportunity to make representations in respect of the within matter.

DATED at the Municipality of Highlands East, Wilberforce, Ontario this 13th day of October, 2020.

> ROBYN ROGERS, MUNICIPAL CLERK rrogers@highlandseast.ca Box 295, 2249 Loop Road WILBERFORCE, ON KOL 3C0

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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receiver, we would have all been executed on the spot. This is why he broke through the German guards, and ran back into the house, as fast as he could to the attic. He was faster than the Germans who went after him. The window was open for a reason. He cut the antenna just before the German entered the room. He grabbed a suit out of the closet, and said "Heil Hitler" and told the soldier that he needed the suit. The Germans never found the hidden receiver. The "Heil Hitler" salute saved his life and the life of the whole family. He went back outside the gate, and disappeared. After my father contacted the Red Cross, the two S.S. soldiers guarding the gate let my father back in to get a few things from the house. We threw what we could on a cart and left, leaving most of our belongings behind. It was dark, and there were no street lights. In the dark, our family walked the long distance back to The Hague. We arrived late at night, and the Red Cross managed to get us temporary shelter in a school building that was occupied by the N.S.B. (The Nazi collaborators). Cold and tired, we found ourselves in the midst of these friendly killers. We were given a small room (2.5 X3.5 metres) with mattresses on the floor. We had to walk on them just to get out of the room. My younger brother and I found a box of luminous Nazi pins. We pinned them to the wall above our mattress and at night the wall glowed with swastikas and Heil Hitler slogans. My mother was furious, scolding us as she tore them from the wall.

Seventh move – an old age home

We did not stay long in that hell hole. With the help of the Red Cross, my father managed to find us another place to live. It was an old age home, in Loosduinen. My mother was more upset than thankful. The director was very bossy, and was unwilling to cooperate. It was an unhappy experience for the whole family, and we wanted desperately to get out of this environment.

NSB panic forces eighth move

There was a rumour spreading that the Allies had invaded, to liberate us from the German occupation. Everyone thought that the end was near, and many of the Nazi collaborators fled in panic to escape the wrath of their own countrymen. We called the panic "De dolle dinsdag" (the wild Tuesday). It turned out to be a false rumour, but since the collaborators had abandoned their homes, we took advantage of the situation to move into another house in Loosduinen "Meclenburgplein." This was move number eight. On the surface it appeared to be a good move, but this is where we suffered the most. It was 1944. That year is tattooed in my brain. The house was one block away from a railroad station, and the R.A.F. (Royal Air Force) bombed it many times. Each time the bombardment started we had to run for shelter. Our house was never hit, and we were not physically injured, but the fear and mental anguish will never leave me. In the summer of that year, food and wood were more scarce than ever. We were down to eating tulip bulbs and sugar beets, and we were running out of them also. I went from door to door begging for a piece of bread, or anything else people could share, but no one had any to offer. Then there was nothing else to eat but grass, roots and leaves. I chewed on wood to please my stomach. I knew where the Germans stored their food, but it was in the forbidden territory (Sperrgebiet), and it was a deadly risk to get it. This was where the V-2's were kept, and trespassers were shot on sight. I had reached the point where dying from a bullet was no worse than dying from starvation. I was aware of the consequences, but when you are hungry, you take chances. I found my way into an abandoned farm. There were cabbages and carrots left in the field. I felt like I had hit the jackpot! I carried as much as possible, and sneaked back into the free zone. When my mother asked me where I got it, I told her that I had found it. She was thankful. I never told anyone where and how I went into the forbidden zone. I just kept my mouth shut.

Machine gun fire

While we were eating, my mother mentioned that it would be nice to have our old dishes, that we were forced to leave behind in the house on the missile base. Feeling confident, after yesterday's daring adventure, I once again went through the German line to our old home. I didn't see or hear any soldiers so I entered the house. It was exactly as we had left it. As I was grabbing the dishes, I heard a truck approaching. I put the dishes back on the table, ran for the shed, and stood in



I had reached the point where dying from a bullet was no worse than dying from starvation.

the corner by the door. They must have seen me entering the shed, and as they drove by they opened fire with the machine gun mounted on the truck. Bullets flew all around me. They came in and past me and out again, coming as close as 15 cm from my body. I was frozen with fear, and couldn't move for a couple of minutes. I was in shock, but luckily for me the truck didn't stop. After the area was clear, I re-entered the house, grabbed the dishes and carefully sneaked back to the free zone. I did not tell my mother, but she recognized the dishes, and once again I had to sit through one of her long, yet loving speeches. All mothers worry about their children, and I was proud to help her out.

German soldier shows mercy

A few days later, I took my younger brother Edward, back to the house with me for some more dishes. This time we were not so lucky. Two soldiers approached the house. I escaped, but Edward was caught. As one soldier pointed his rifle to shoot Edward, the other soldier intervened, pushing the barrel away from my brother, and shouted "weg – weg" meaning go – go. The good hearted soldier was perhaps thinking of his own son, back in Germany, or perhaps of himself when he was a child. When Edward caught up to me he was shaken but alive, thanks to the goodness of this soldier. Edward said that the dishes almost cost us our lives. We never went back, and of course we did not tell Mom!

The underwear mission

There was a small newspaper called *The Flying Dutch*man printed in England which was dropped down above Holland by the R.A.F. (The Royal Air Force) to inform the people about the latest news of the war situations and movements. The papers were important to give hope to an exhausted and dying nation. The few radios that existed were under German control and announced only Nazi propaganda. The resistance fighters gathered large numbers of those papers and addressed them to trustful people. My brother Dick managed to get a bundle of them to me and said "The papers have to be delivered to a farm." This farm was still operating, but only to produce food and milk for the Germans. It was in German forbidden territory. The farmer and his wife were from the underground movement too! It was too risky for Dick to carry the papers. If he got caught by the Germans and they found the papers on him, he would be deported or shot. It was safer for him if I carried them. The Germans had not bothered me so far. I guess I was too small for them. The only safe place to carry the papers was in my underwear. The farm was about 6 kms away so we left with *The Flying Dutchman* on my bum. It was in the late status of the war and the Germans became more and more dangerous and brutal. We went through bushy fields, small channels and abandoned farmland in the freezing cold. We managed to reach the farm safe. The farmer's wife took the papers out of my underwear and said "Good Job". She rewarded me with a hug and a cup of milk. That meant more to me than anything else. I had not had a cup of milk in almost two years. We warmed ourselves by the wood stove and stayed only a short while. The farmer gave us a sign that read "The road is clear." We said goodnight and went. Dick went his way and I went mine. It was safer to travel alone. It was almost dark when I arrived into the Free Zone again. I had accomplished my mission. At the time, I had no idea how dangerous the job was. We were not thinking about danger, just to do what we had to do. I know it was not allowed to say a word to anyone, even my mother did not know. "Underwear can be useful to win a war" and I had received my reward: A cup of milk.





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Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/en/countyoffice/ careers.aspx for a detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to abull@county.haliburton.on.ca no later than Wednesday, October 28, 2020 at 4:30pm.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details

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Exodus 20:8-10 (KJV)

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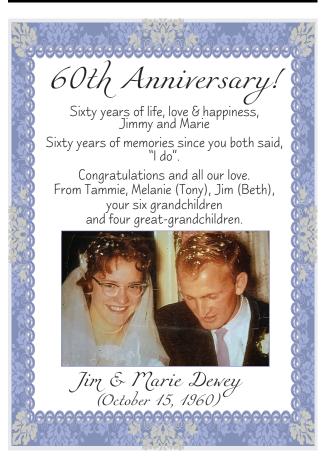
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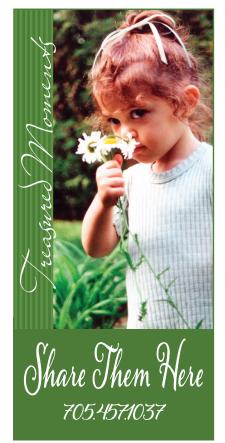
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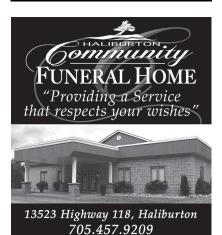








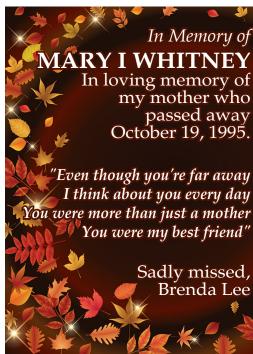
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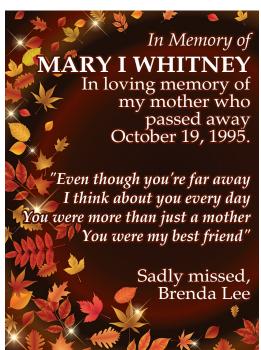
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650 OBITUARIES



Hodgson, Patricia (Pat), L.E.

Passed away at West Haldimand General Hospital, Hagersville, on Wednesday October 14, 2020 due to complications from COPD and lung cancer.

Pat was in her 91st year and was predeceased by her husband Bill in 2007. She was a devoted and loving mother to Greg and his wife Carolle of Hagersville and Dale and her husband Jerry of Haliburton. Gramsy was very proud

of her granddaughter Michelle Hodgson and they enjoyed many lunches together throughout the community. Pat was the curious and interested Aunt of the Gibson and Baigent nieces and nephews and their families. Pat looked forward to visits with her only "grand-dog" Hali. Pat was very grateful for living independently in her family home in Cayuga until recently. Pat enjoyed her outings, travels and card games with Gladys and the girls. We are extremely thankful for Marilyn, Luke and Jim Rohrbach for going above and beyond as great neighbours and friends. We would like to thank Dr. Greg Teitelbaum and both nurses Jakki and Miranda on the Inpatient Unit at West Haldimand General Hospital for the great care they provided Pat at the end of her life. Also, we are extremely grateful for the ongoing care provided by Dr.W.J. Bulger throughout Pat's life.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to the West Haldimand General Hospital and Healthcare Foundation, Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation, or the Alzheimer Society of Haldimand-Norfolk. Visitation will take place on Saturday October 17, 2020 at Miller Funeral Chapel 29 Cayuga St. N., Cayuga ON from 12:00 to 2:00pm. A graveside service will follow at 2:30 at Riverside Cemetery in Cayuga.

INSIDE THIS WEEK: PATIENT NEWS IS TOPS AGAIN

Haliburton publishing company is once again one of Canada's best workplaces

HALIBURTON EXPLORED

Author Michael Barnes is writing another book to let people discover county's charms RED HAWK FOOTBALL

Junior squad waits to hear how its complaint is dealt with before advancing to semi-finals



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Election prompts call for reform

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter

Canada's Conservative party will form another minority government after last week's federal election and while the returning MP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock says the election was worthwhile and will create a more stable parliament, the election outcome has other political personalities calling for electoral reform in Canada

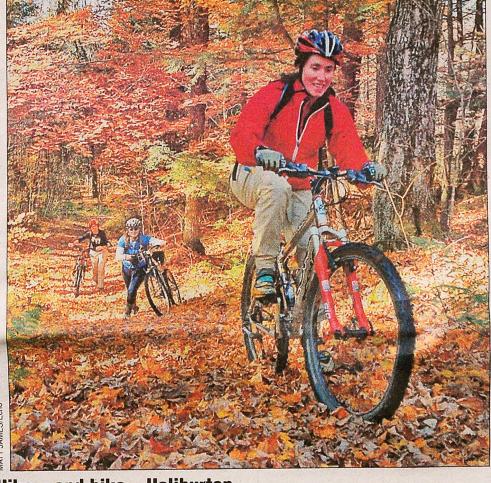
The Green and NDP parties in particular are calling for electoral reform that would incorporate some kind of proportional representation, a system that directly translates popular support into

While Canada's Green party received a record 940,000 votes in the election, the party is still without a seat in the House of Commons

"Absolutely we need to lean more to proportional representation," said Michael Bell, a Peterborough resident who ran as the Green party candidate in the Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock riding, adding he thought last week's election was an unnecessary one.

Bell said he thought the way the Greens had been shut out of the House was akin to the way U.S. President George Bush won the 2000 election despite receiving less of the popular vote than Democratic rival Al Gore.

See **Election** page 14 new MP.



Hike – and bike – Haliburton

Hike Hallburton greeter Heather Reid powers up a hill during Saturday's Bike the Forest at Hallburton Forest as Forest employee Sabrina Cook and Toronto's Jennifer Renaud walk behind. Sections of the tralis are quite challenging. More photos from the festivities are on pages 9 and 19.

Youth vote goes to 18-year-old NDP candidate

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter,

If students at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School had their way, Stephen Yardy, the 18-year old who ran as the NDP candidate for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock in last week's federal election, would be the riding's

In a mock election held at the school last week, 478 students cast ballots and Yardy came out as the winner, garnering 31.8 per cent of the vote.

Incumbent MP Barry Devolin, who actually won the riding, received 27.8 per cent of the high school vote followed by Green party candidate Michael Bell with 27 per cent.

Liberal candidate Marlene

White received 10.9 per cent and Christian Heritage party candidate Dave Switzer had 2.5 per cent of the vote.

In the actual election, Devolin won in a landslide garnering 56 per cent of the popular vote. White was next with just over 20 per cent, followed by Yardy with 14.6 per cent, Bell with 8.3 per cent and Switzer with less than one per cent of the vote.

Review doesn't mean schools will close: principal

JENN WATT

Staff Reporter

Even though closure is one possible outcome of the program assessment for Wilberforce and Cardiff schools, it is not the only outcome, the principal of both schools says.

It was announced in September that due to low enrolment the school board would be appointing a program assessment and review committee (PARC) to determine whether the schools meet the provincial standards of education for the elementary students learning there.

"My wish is that everyone would understand and respect the process," said principal Elaine Fournier in an interview with the *Echo* at Cardiff Elementary School. "It's human nature to leap to the possibility of closshe said.

Both Cardiff and Wilberforce have 62 students. Cardiff hosts kids from junior kindergarten right up to Grade 8, while Wilberforce goes to Grade 6.

Walking the halls of the spacious Cardiff school the empty classrooms - since converted to special classrooms for music, special education and a computer lab - it's obvious the building was created for a larger group of

See Enrolments page 12

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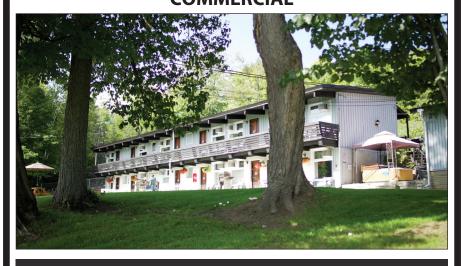
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